

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES OF THE COMBINED WORK SESSION & REGULAR MEETING HELD

MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021 AT 4:30 P.M.

The White County Board of Commissioners held a combined Work Session & Regular Meeting on Monday, August 30, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room at the White County Administration Office. Present for the meeting were: Chairman Travis Turner, Commissioner Terry Goodger, Commissioner Lyn Holcomb, Commissioner Edwin Nix, Commissioner Craig Bryant, Interim County Manager / County Clerk Shanda Murphy, and Finance Director Jodi Ligon.

Chairman Turner called the meeting to order.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Pastor Jeff Groves of The Bridge Church and the White County Ministerial Alliance, provided the invocation.

Upon presentation of proclamation to the White County Historical Society, September 25, 2021 was declared “Georgia History Day in White County”.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to adopt the minutes of the August 2, 2021 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting including Executive Session minutes, the August 5, 2021 Public Hearing & Called Meeting including Executive Session minutes, and the August 24, 2021 Called Meeting including Executive Session minutes.

Mr. John Sell, Director of Community & Economic Development, presented the land use application filed by Sam & Louise Hersey to request a conditional use permit at 528 Laurel Ridge Road Cleveland, Georgia 30528 – tax map & parcel 059D-122, total acres 1.75. The proposed use was to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Residential Single Family District. Mr. Sell advised there are currently eight (8) short-term rentals in this subdivision, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application and there was no opposition, and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application. Mr. Russel Pruitt represented the applicants and stated that he already takes care of one (1) short-term rental for the Hersey’s and he will be managing this one as well. He stated that the maximum occupancy would be four (4) adults. Chairman Turner asked for a show of hands for anyone in support or in opposition to the request – there were none.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Goodger there was a unanimous vote to approve the land use application filed by Sam & Louise Hersey for a conditional use permit at 528 Laurel Ridge Road Cleveland, Georgia 30528 – tax map & parcel 059D-122, total acres 1.75. The approved use is to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Residential Single Family District.

Mr. Sell presented the land use application filed by James L. Johnston IV & Courtney R. Johnston to request a conditional use permit at 74 Lynch Mountain Road Sautee Nacoochee, Georgia 30571 – tax map & parcel 071-066 – total acres 1.45. The proposed use was to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Single Family Residential District. Mr. Sell advised this property is not located in a subdivision, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application and there was no opposition, and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application. Mr. Johnston confirmed the information presented. Chairman Turner asked for a show of hands for anyone in support or in opposition to the request – there were none.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Nix there was a unanimous vote to approve the land use application filed by James L. Johnston IV & Courtney R. Johnston to request a conditional

use permit at 74 Lynch Mountain Road Sautee Nacoochee, Georgia 30571 – tax map & parcel 071-066 – total acres 1.45. The approved use is to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Single Family Residential District.

Mr. Sell presented the land use application filed by Sherry Shortt to request a conditional use permit at 1086 Hwy 356 Helen, Georgia 30545 – tax map & parcel 055-001 – total acres 1.046. The proposed use was to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Residential Single Family District. Mr. Sell advised this property is not located in a subdivision, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the application and there was no opposition, and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the application. Mr. Teresa Holtzclaw represented Ms. Shortt and stated that the property's proximity to Unicoi State Park made it an ideal location for a short-term rental. She said that Ms. Shortt had planned on managing the property herself, however she would recommend to her that she utilize a local management company. Chairman Turner asked for a show of hands for anyone in support or in opposition to the request – there were none.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve the land use application filed by Sherry Shortt to request a conditional use permit at 1086 Hwy 356 Helen, Georgia 30545 – tax map & parcel 055-001 – total acres 1.046. The approved use is to place in a short-term rental program within the present use of R-1, Single Family Residential District.

Mr. John Sell stated that with the updating of the White County Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan – he was requesting the designation of a Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee who would participate in revising the plan. He noted that the current plan was developed 6 to 7 years ago and there has been several trails added since that time – such as those at Yonah Preserve, Hardman Farm, and Truett McConnell University.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to designate the following individuals to the Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee:

- Will Wagner - Manager Smithgall Woods State Park
- Dr. Barry McCarty - Truett McConnell University and bicycle enthusiast
- Woody Wood - SORBA, Local bike rental business owner
- Dr. Gene Pease - Interested citizen
- Barbara Jockers - Interested citizen
- Josh Turner - Mayor of Cleveland & Governor's Office of Highway Safety

Ms. Shanda Murphy presented information regarding the replacement bridge for Airport Road from Contech, Inc.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Goodger, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to table the decision on the replacement bridge for Airport Road until a later date.

Mr. David Murphy, Director of Public Safety, explained to the Board that during recent months there had been a dramatic increase in the volume of status 1 calls (no ambulances available / no calls pending), status 13 calls (no ambulances available / calls pending), and mutual aid responses from other counties into White County. Mr. Murphy stated that the volume of status 13 calls had increased 275% July 2019 – July 2021 and 500% August 2020 – August 2021. He attributed this to an increase in calls due to COVID as well as the delayed time for ambulances returning to the county due to the hospital being overwhelmed with patients and time needed for decontaminating trucks. He stated that he, Scott Masters - Director of Emergency Medical Services at Northeast Georgia Health Systems, and Bill Scandrett - White County Emergency Medical Services Manager, had been working together to develop a plan to address these issues. Mr. Masters stated that although he had some

suggestions for the next budget year when the White County EMS contract is up for renewal, it was apparent that there had to be a short-term solution to deal with the current surge of requests for emergency medical services. His suggestion was to add an ambulance during peak times – 12 hours per day / 7 days per week, which he said could be done for \$39,698.00 per month. He advised that the county would only be billed when this additional ambulance could be staffed and he recommended this be implemented for September, October, and November.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Nix, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to approve \$119,094.00 for implementation of a “surge” ambulance for peak times for September, October, and November – to be billed to the county monthly and to be funded through American Rescue Plan Act funds as part of White County’s COVID response.

Ms. Jodi Ligon, Finance Director, presented the monthly financial status report (see attached).

Ms. Murphy provided a brief update to the Board on various projects and thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as interim county manager.

Chairman Turner opened the floor for public participation – there was none and the floor was closed.

Upon a motion made by Commissioner Bryant, seconded by Commissioner Holcomb there was a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The minutes of the August 30, 2021 Called Meeting were approved as stated this 4th day of October, 2021.

WHITE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

s/Travis C. Turner
Travis C. Turner, Chairman

s/Terry D. Goodger
Terry D. Goodger, District 1

s/Lyn Holcomb
Lyn Holcomb, District 2

s/Edwin Nix
Edwin Nix, District 3

s/Craig Bryant
Craig Bryant, District 4

s/Shanda Murphy
Shanda Murphy, County Clerk

White County Board of Commissioners

July 2021

Pre-Audit

Financial Report

August 30, 2021

General Fund Revenues & Expenditures

FY2022 Approved Budget = \$22,494,047

July – Pre-Audit

Revenues - \$ 847,390

Expenditures - \$ 1,501,480

YTD

Revenues - \$ 847,390 (4%)

Expenditures - \$ 1,501,480 (7%)

1 month of 12 = 8%

FY2018 – 2022 Alcohol Taxes & Fees

FY2022 Budget = \$150,200 6% Rec'd

Description	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021 Pre-Audit	FY2022 Pre-Audit
License Fees	\$38,719	\$43,382	\$45,435	\$42,258	\$0
Excise Tax	\$84,350	\$83,289	\$86,457	\$102,169	\$9,116
Total Alcohol Fees & Taxes	\$123,069	\$126,671	\$131,892	\$144,427	\$9,116

FY2018 – 2022 TAVT (Title Ad Valorem Tax)

FY2022 Budget = \$1,700,000 9% Rec'd

MONTH	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021 Pre-Audit	FY2022 Pre-Audit
JUL	\$76,727	\$74,715	\$136,306	\$153,972	\$160,887
AUG	\$71,772	\$104,393	\$144,099	\$152,696	
SEP	\$61,588	\$80,222	\$135,669	\$131,587	
OCT	\$71,896	\$85,576	\$117,060	\$130,468	
NOV	\$66,380	\$73,190	\$109,057	\$110,052	
DEC	\$73,003	\$69,568	\$116,593	\$144,212	
JAN	\$76,167	\$93,225	\$145,633	\$135,662	
FEB	\$80,747	\$67,961	\$113,050	\$150,507	
MAR	\$92,573	\$96,055	\$135,855	\$187,822	
APR	\$88,681	\$92,761	\$77,925	\$185,809	
MAY	\$93,643	\$77,858	\$113,550	\$179,239	
JUN	\$85,883	\$98,165	\$134,243	\$155,585	
TOTALS	\$939,060	\$1,013,689	\$1,479,040	\$1,817,611	\$160,887

FY2018 – 2022 Local Option Sales Tax

FY2022 Budget = \$3,497,297

11% Rec'd

MONTH	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021 Pre-Audit	FY2022 Pre-Audit
JUL	\$226,216	\$241,757	\$262,785	\$297,868	\$373,325
AUG	\$247,945	\$264,181	\$286,083	\$312,028	
SEP	\$218,264	\$228,659	\$254,983	\$536,860	
OCT	\$231,679	\$226,816	\$256,146	\$303,063	
NOV	\$223,302	\$257,618	\$268,171	\$327,889	
DEC	\$208,590	\$229,047	\$255,898	\$302,201	
JAN	\$224,281	\$231,065	\$266,878	\$332,728	
FEB	\$184,527	\$184,313	\$229,921	\$271,627	
MAR	\$180,396	\$210,193	\$210,195	\$259,792	
APR	\$213,547	\$233,021	\$228,103	\$320,464	
MAY	\$210,612	\$223,684	\$213,733	\$319,636	
JUN	\$211,133	\$244,016	\$268,557	\$342,165	
TOTAL	\$2,580,492	\$2,774,370	\$3,001,453	\$3,926,321	\$373,325

FY2018 – 2022 Hotel / Motel Tax

FY2022 Budget - \$1,510,500 12% Rec'd

MONTH	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021 Pre-Audit	FY2022 Pre-Audit
JUL	\$79,034	\$83,289	\$104,588	\$120,932	\$176,808
AUG	\$112,268	\$113,190	\$125,026	\$176,030	
SEP	\$68,736	\$74,019	\$83,767	\$124,013	
OCT	\$80,606	\$73,197	\$95,041	\$160,567	
NOV	\$109,368	\$119,335	\$123,552	\$174,828	
DEC	\$72,025	\$95,745	\$99,301	\$170,745	
JAN	\$82,343	\$85,132	\$98,634	\$148,085	
FEB	\$47,528	\$52,907	\$59,018	\$98,423	
MAR	\$43,670	\$47,790	\$50,630	\$105,446	
APR	\$67,617	\$75,851	\$46,562	\$131,277	
MAY	\$68,680	\$75,170	\$17,970	\$135,444	
JUN	\$62,209	\$82,186	\$72,217	\$156,170	
TOTAL	\$894,084	\$977,811	\$976,306	\$1,701,960	\$176,808

Separate Funds FY2022 Budget to Actual

July 2021 – Pre-Audit

Fund	Total Budget	Cost to Gen Fund	Revenues YTD	Expenditures YTD	% Spent
Solid Waste	\$128,436	\$0	\$14,282	\$2,234	2%
E-911	\$1,208,929	\$600,000	\$196,500	\$102,014	8%
ARDEO	\$788,359	\$0	\$14,888	\$27,891	4%
Enotah Judicial	\$819,318	\$209,775	\$183,103	\$22,236	3%

SPLOST 2020 Update

Start Date: December 2020

End Date: November 2026

July 2021 is 8th month of 72

Receipts = \$ 622,210

1% County Administration Fee = \$ 6,222

Cleveland & Helen portions = \$ 123,198 each

County portion = \$ 369,592

Earmarked Debt Service Funds = \$ 65,000

Project Fund Account = \$ 304,592

SPLOST2020 Receipts

Calendar Year History - Total To Date \$4,203,232

MONTH	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
JAN	-	\$554,546					
FEB	-	\$452,713					
MAR	-	\$432,988					
APR	-	\$534,107					
MAY	-	\$532,726					
JUN	-	\$570,279					
JUL	-	\$622,210					
AUG	-						
SEP	-						
OCT	-						
NOV	-						
DEC	\$503,663						-
TOTAL	\$503,663	\$3,699,569					

2020 SPLOST PROGRAM UPDATE

Original SPLOST Referendum Estimated Revenue:	\$ 28,000,000
Revised Estimated Revenue (Actual & Projected):	\$ 29,163,232
Estimated White County Share (Actual & Projected):	\$ 17,322,960
SPLOST Program Actual Monthly Distributions:	8 of 72 (11%)

Administration

* Debt Service – January 2022	\$ 686,048
* Courthouse Architectural Service	\$ 66,215
* County IT Infrastructure	\$ 12,250
* Tax Commissioner Architectural Service	\$ 82,425
* Probate Court Office Archive Project	\$ 42,000
* Extension Office Van	\$ 30,544
* Tax Commissioner Renovations	TBD

Total: \$ 919,482

Roads and Bridges

* Heavy Equipment Lease	\$ 59,622
* 2021 LMIG-Post Road	\$ 128,823
* Airport Road Culvert Repair	\$ 152,960
* Claude Sims Ext. Engineering	\$ 1,805
* Barrett Mill Road	\$ 400,000
* LMIG-SAP Striping Project	\$ 50,000
* Redd Road	\$ 291,085
* Luke Road	\$ 165,029
* Bolton Road	\$ 75,000

Total: \$ 1,324,324

Public Safety

E911, Fire, Sheriff's Office

* Patrol Vehicles Lease-Purchase (5)	\$ 44,347
* EMA-911 Vehicle	\$ 43,837
* Patrol Vehicles (8)	\$ 388,724
* Detention Center Security Cameras	\$ 116,150
* Courthouse X-Ray Machine	\$ 24,547
* Fire Department Extractors (2)	\$ 25,000

Total: \$ 642,605

2014/2020 SPLOST CASH FLOW YEAR END 2021

Current Operating Account Balance:	\$ 3,634,192
Current Debt Service Account Balance:	\$ 962,391
Total Expected Collections (WC Share 2020)	<u>\$ 1,158,300</u>
Total Amount Available 2020	\$ 5,754,883

Less SPLOST Commitments to Date (Encumbrances):

Administration	\$ 919,482
Road and Bridges	\$ 1,324,324
Public Safety	<u>\$ 642,605</u>
TOTAL:	\$ 2,886,411

TOTAL SPLOST AVAILABLE BY YEAR END 2021: \$ 2,868,472



QUESTIONS & COMMENTS